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Voluntary - Public

Date: 6/22/2018

GAIN Report Number: CA18044

Canada

Post: Ottawa

Canada Opens Consultations on Proposed Amendments to Beer Standards

Report Categories:

Beverages

Retail Foods

Policy and Program Announcements

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Report Highlights:

On June 16, 2018, the Canadian Food Inspection Agency opened consultations on proposed amendments to the Food and Drug Regulations to update Canada's beer compositional standards. The comment period is open until September 14, 2018. The proposed changes establish the requirements a product must meet in order to be labeled, packaged, sold, or advertised as beer in Canada.

General Information:

The Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) launched a 90-day [public consultation](#) on proposed changes to beer compositional standards under the Food and Drug Regulations.

The [proposed amendments](#) further clarify the term "carbohydrate matter," limit residual sugar to 4 percent, allow the use of flavoring ingredients, and remove the labelling exemption for the disclosure of food allergens.

Here are some of the proposed changes of particular interest to beer producers and stakeholders:

- In addition to yeast, other microorganisms will be permitted in the beer alcoholic fermentation process
- Residual sugars will be limited to 4 percent by weight
- Herbs, spices and other ingredients will be allowed in beer
- Beer will no longer be exempt from the mandatory labeling of food allergens, gluten and added sulphites.

Interested stakeholders are encouraged to participate in the consultation process by submitting comments to:

Director, Consumer Protection and Market Fairness Division
Food Safety and Consumer Protection Directorate
Canadian Food Inspection Agency
1400 Merivale Road, Tower 2, Floor 6
Ottawa, Ontario, K1A 0Y9
Email: labelling_consultation_etiquetage@inspection.gc.ca

Correspondence should indicate "Beer Compositional Standards Consultation Canada Gazette Part I" in the subject line. **The comment period closes on September 14, 2018.**

For details on the previous consultation process, see GAIN Report: [CA17025](#).